

<p style="text-align: center;">REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE) TRANSMITTAL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Subsection (b) of 35 U.S.C. § 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995. See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA).</p>	Application Number	10/678,299
	Filing Date	October 6, 2003
	First Named Inventor	Shunpei YAMAZAKI et al.
	Group Art Unit	2811
	Examiner Name	Samuel A. Gebremariam
	Attorney Docket Number	740756-2662

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 C.F.R. § 1.53(d) (PTO/SB/29) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000), 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

1. **Submission required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114**
 - a. ☐ Previously submitted
 - i. ☐ Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116 previously filed on _____
(Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered).
 - ii. ☐ Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on _____
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ Enclosed
 - i. ☐ Preliminary Amendment/Reply
 - ii. ☐ Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. ☒ Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. ☐ Submission of Formal Drawings
 - v. ☐ Petition to Withdraw from Issue
2. **Miscellaneous**
 - a. ☐ Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c) for a period of _____ months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; Fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(I) **required**)
 - b. ☐ Other _____
3. **Fees** The RCE fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) is required by 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 when the RCE is filed.
 - a. ☒ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 19-2380
 - i. ☒ RCE fee required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e) (\$790.00)
 - ii. ☐ Extension of time fee (37 C.F.R. §§ 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. ☐ Other _____
 - b. ☒ The Director is authorized to charge Deposit Account # 19-2380 in the amount of \$790.00
 - c. ☐ Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT REQUIRED			
Signature	/John F. Guay, Reg.# 47248/	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	47,248
Name (Print/Type)	John F. Guay	Date	February 5, 2007

SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450